

Three Tun Tavern
Mt. Holly, Burlington County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

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Three Tun Tavern
Mt. Holly, Burlington County, New Jersey

Owner: Mrs. Mary A. Madden

Date of Erection: Before 1737

Architect:

Builder: Samuel Briant (probable)

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: Two and one-half

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - brick,
stucco

Interior walls - plaster

Roof - pitch

Historical Data:

The first owner and the probable builder of the Three Tun Tavern was Samuel Briant. Just when it was built is not known, but Josiah White purchased it from Samuel Briant in 1737.

The old tavern was the starting point for coaches over the Monmouth Road and seashore points. Stage coaches advertised it as a stopping place in 1759 and also in 1761.

In Woolman's writings we read that he remonstrated with the landlord of the tavern for the noise, disorder, and "evil actions" at the time.

During the course of the Revolution General Cornwallis and the Hessian General Knyphausen occupied rooms in the tavern. It was used as a Hessian headquarters. During 1770-1781 Court of Admiralty was held in the tavern.

The name of the tavern was changed to Square and Compass early in the nineteenth century. It was in 1805 the meeting place of the newly organized Masonic Lodge, and for that reason the name was changed to Square and Compass. How long it was called the Square and Compass is not known; but in 1825 it was called the Sign of General Jackson. The eighteenth amendment temporarily needed its career, but after repeal it was opened as the Mill Street Hotel by which name it is now known.


Bibliography:

Material collected by Herbert N. Moffett,
Burlington County Supervisor



Supervising Historian

Approved:



SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, A.I.A.
District Officer

WU 7/28/27